

Senior Advisory Committee Minutes
Tuesday, July 19, 2016
New Shoreham Town Hall, Old Town Road
9:30 a.m.

Present: Co-Chairs Sandra Kelly and Gail Pierce, members Betsey DeMaggio, Deborah Martin, Ann Henault, Linda Spak, Sandra Hopf and Dorothy Graham. Absent was member Suzanne Wright. Present to record the minutes was Deputy Town Clerk Millie McGinnes.

Co-Chair Sandra Kelly called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

1. Public Input

There was no public input.

2. Approve Minutes of Meeting: June 22, 2016

Sandra Kelly moved to approve the minutes of June 22, 2016 as presented, seconded by Gail Pierce.

Ayes: 8 (Kelly, Hopf, Spak, DeMaggio, Pierce, Henault, Graham, Martin) Nays: 0
Absent: 1 (Wright)

3. Discuss and act on status of Senior Coordinator position

Sandra Kelly announced that two applications were received for the Senior Coordinator position, with a possible third on its way. Ms. Kelly will contact the candidates to set up interviews.

4. Discuss and act on Water Aerobics possibility

It was noted that earlier in the summer the Recreation Department was looking, without success, for someone to offer the use of their pool for a water aerobics program. Linda Spak will follow up with the Rec. Department. The potential of using Andy's Way as a location was discussed.

5. Discuss Community Service Grant status and next steps

Sandra Kelly explained that no progress was made on the Community Service grant, as the grant requires a pre-requisite of an established Senior Center. She noted that she reached out to State Rep. Blake Filippi, but he not yet responded. Appealing to the legislature for a legislative grant was discussed.

Discussion ensued regarding defining the Community Center to meet the "Senior Center" qualification for the Community Service grant. Ann Henault will research the qualifications defining a Senior Center.

6. Designate member to establish contact with state reps to get Block Island on the list of communities that receive help

It was noted that before reaching out to representatives the committee should define objectives regarding assistance needs. This will be further addressed when a Senior Coordinator is hired.

7. Review and act on reimbursement procedures for Senior Activities

Gail Pierce explained that each instructor sponsored by the SAC had a different payment structure and fee collection policy, and it would be helpful to have a general policy regarding such.

Discussion ensued regarding whether or not programs should be self-sustaining.

Linda Spak moved to set a policy to pay a flat fee to instructors to conduct programs with each fee to be established on a case by case basis. Gail Pierce seconded the motion and it carried.

Ayes: 8 (Kelly, Hopf, Spak, DeMaggio, Pierce, Henault, Graham, Martin) Nays: 0
Absent: 1 (Wright)

8. Discuss and act on telephone call from concerned citizen: foliage at the Post Office and other safety concerns

This item was continued.

9. Discuss future programs

This item will be discussed at the next meeting.

10. Update on activities:

a. BIBB – Review Status

The Block Island Bulletin Board has 866 members, with 8,455 postings.

b. Soup Group

Soup Group is going well with ups and downs in participants.

c. Seated Strengthening Exercise Classes

d. Tai Chi

Exercise class and Tai Chi class are going well.

e. Caregiver Support Group

Kerri Gaffett is carrying the caregiver support group forward.

Linda Spak distributed “A Plan for Elder Care on Block Island,” a study performed by a group in the ‘90’s. She asked everyone to review it for the next meeting and highlight the ideas and inspirations to be taken from it. This item will be on the next agenda.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, August 16, 2016 9:30 a.m.

At 10:36 a.m., a motion to adjourn was made by Betsey DeMaggio. The motion was seconded by Dottie Graham, with all voting in favor.

Millie McGinnes

Minutes Approved: August 16, 2016